

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 4 and 6 through 20 are now pending in the application. Claim 5 is herein canceled. Claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 12, 13 and 20 are herein amended. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

SPECIFICATION

The last sentence in paragraph [0029] has been amended to correct the reference to "member 54" from --element 46-- as the item which receives the material of the sealing surface. This is consistent with the first sentence of paragraph [0029]. The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter amended paragraph [0029].

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1 and 6 through 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Lungu (U.S. Pat. No. 4,524,797). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

It is initially noted Claim 1 has been amended to recite in part:

"a one piece valve body having:

a pressurized air supply inlet port adapted to be in fluid communication with a source of pressurized air,
an outlet port adapted to be in fluid communication with at least one active pneumatically operated device, and
a pass-through passage in fluid communication with said inlet

port and adapted to be in fluid communication with and provide a pass-through of the supply of pressurized air to the inlet port of another valve assembly such that said valves are mounted in series with respect to the supply of pressurized air; and
a latching assembly integrally created with and extending outwardly from said one piece valve body adapted to engage and be operatively retained within a single aperture in a mounting plate.

Support for this amendment is found in paragraphs [0026] and [0036] and Figures 2A, 3A, 3B, 4A-4C, 5A, 5B, 6A and 6B.

Lungu does not disclose a one piece valve body. Lungu also does not disclose a valve body having an inlet port, an outlet port and a pass-through passage in fluid communication with the inlet passage. Lungu further does not disclose a latching assembly integrally created with and extending outwardly from said one piece valve body or that the latching assembly is operatively retained within a single aperture of a mounting plate.

Lungu therefore does not anticipate amended Claim 1. The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejection of Claim 1. Because Claims 6-8 depend from Claim 1, Lungu does not anticipate Claims 6, 7 or 8 for the same reasons. The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejection of Claims 6-8.

Lungu does not anticipate amended Claim 8 for at least the following reason. Lungu does not disclose said valve sealing surface includes an over-molded sealing material disposed on the valve sealing surface. Support for this amendment is found in

paragraph [0029] of the specification. Lungu therefore cannot anticipate amended Claim 8.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 2, 12, and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lungu (U.S. Pat. No. 4,524,797) in view of Guerrero (U.S. Pat. No. 6,301,113). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

It is initially noted Claim 12 has been amended to recite in part:

“a one piece valve body having a pressurized air supply inlet port in fluid communication with a source of pressurized air, and a pass-through port in fluid communication with said inlet port and adapted to be in fluid communication with and provide a pass-through of the supply of pressurized air to the inlet port of at least one other valve assembly mounted in series with respect to the supply of pressurized air; and

a latching assembly integrally created with said one piece valve body that extends away from said valve body and has a biasing member receiving bore separating a first flanged lip extending laterally outward from said valve body and a second flanged lip.”

Support for this amendment is found in paragraphs [0026], [0036] and [0037] and Figures 2A, 3A, 3B, 4A-4C, 5A, 5B, 6A and 6B.

It is also initially noted Claim 20 has been amended to recite in part:

"a one piece valve body having a pressurized air supply inlet port in fluid communication with a source of pressurized air, an outlet port adapted to be in fluid communication with at least one active pneumatically operated device, and a pass-through port in fluid communication with said inlet port and

a latching assembly integrally formed with said valve body extending away from said valve body and generally having the same shape as a single aperture in an associated mounting plate, and
said biasing latch member disposed within a cavity created between said first and second flanged lips of said latching assembly."

Support for this amendment is found in paragraphs [0026], [0036] and [0037] and Figures 2A, 3A, 3B, 4A-4C, 5A, 5B, 6A and 6B.

Lungu teaches a multiple part valve body having a connection pipe 57 acting as an inlet, and a connection piece 58. See column 5, lines 13-18. Plug in adapters are separately added which are used to interconnect individual valves in series. See column 6, lines 31-35. Individual lugs 62 are provided with the two halves of magnetic conductor 6a and additional lugs 62 are "embedded in the coil form 10a.", then the lugs 62 are individually inserted in individual mounting holes 63 in a base plate 64 and soldered. See column 6, lines 1-25. Lungu therefore requires multiple body parts, multiple lugs to support the body parts which are not integrally connected to at least the coil form and which are individually connected to separate mounting holes and soldered. Lungu does not teach or suggest a one piece valve body having an inlet port, an outlet port and a

pass-through passage in fluid communication with said inlet port. Lungu further does not teach or suggest a latching assembly integrally created with and extending outwardly from said one piece valve body adapted to engage and be operatively retained within a single aperture in a mounting plate. With respect Claims 12 and 20, Lungu further does not teach or suggest a biasing member bore or cavity positioned between latching assembly components.

Guerrero teaches a non-electrically conductive clip used to mount a heat sink 1 by passing through an electrical component 5 and into a circuit board 6. See column 2, line 66 to column 3, line 8; and column 4, lines 28-41. Guerrero does not teach or suggest a one piece valve body having an inlet port, an outlet port and a pass-through passage in fluid communication with said inlet port. Guerrero further does not teach or suggest a latching assembly integrally created with and extending outwardly from said one piece valve body adapted to engage and be operatively retained within a single aperture in a mounting plate. With respect Claims 12 and 20, Guerrero further does not teach or suggest a biasing member bore or cavity positioned between latching assembly components.

The suggested modification of Lungu and Guerrero therefore cannot render Claims 1, 12 or 20 obvious. The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of Claims 12 and 20. Because Claim 2 depends from Claim 1, the suggested modification of Lungu and Guerrero cannot render Claim 2 obvious for at least the same reasons as noted for Claim 1. The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of Claim 2.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Claims 3 through 5, 9 through 11 and 13 through 19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base Claim and any intervening Claims. Applicants have herein canceled Claim 5 and incorporated its subject matter in amended Claim 1. Applicants acknowledge the indication of allowable subject matter identified in Claims 3 - 4 and 9 -11, and wish thank the Examiner for indication of allowable subject matter, but withhold amendment of these Claims pending examination of amended Claim 1 provided herein. Applicants have amended Claim 13 to include the limitations of the base claim 12. Therefore, Claim 13, as well as Claims 14-18 which depend from Claim 13 should now be in condition for allowance.

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claim 2 has been amended to correspond to the items amended in Claim 1 and to identify "said flanged lips extend beyond the edges of the single mounting plate aperture and affix said valve body to the mounting plate without deflecting either of the first and second flanged lips." Support for this amendment is found in paragraph [0038] and Figures 4A – 4C. The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter amended Claim 2.

Claim 9 has been amended to depend from Claim 7 in lieu of amended Claim 8. The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter amended Claim 9.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

Paul A. Keller Reg. No. 29,752
Thomas J. Krul, Reg. No. 46,842

Dated: Oct. 4, 2005

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303
(248) 641-1600

PAK/TJK/mmk